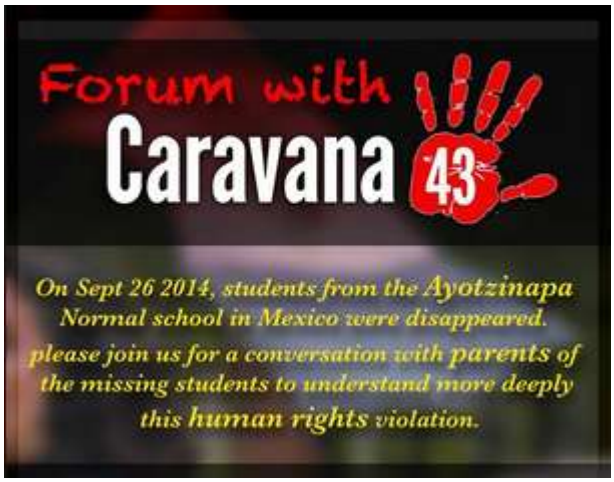
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

"Follow Me"


Forum with
Caravana 43
On Sept 26 2014, students from the Ayotzinapa Normal school in Mexico were disappeared. please join us for a conversation with parents of the missing students to understand more deeply this human rights violation.

On the 26th of each month – please pray for the 43 students & their families who were abducted in Mexico

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

April 26, 2015 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"By Whatever Name We Call You"** **560 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Donna Eyster

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Donna Eyster

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn** **"Take Off Your Shoes"** **79 ES**

Focusing Prayer (Unison) Donna Eyster

Lord of all mercy, love, and hope we ask that you reach down and ease the suffering of all the displaced, abducted and enslaved peoples of the world. Give them the strength and courage to meet their poor treatment with continued hope for improvement. Give us the courage and resources to assist them in as many ways possible but above all to hold all of these people in our prayers. In memory of the work and name of your Son, Jesus Christ this community of concern says "Amen".

Anthem **"Lift God Up"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

New Testament Reading Psalm 23 Donna Eyster

Hymn **"Jesus Loves Me"** **327 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* David Forsberg

New Testament Reading John 10:11-18 David Forsberg

Reflection **"Head and Heart"** David Forsberg

***Hymn** "**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**" **403 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People David Forsberg

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version David Forsberg

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

O God, you love us like a good parent,
and are present in every aspect of our existence.
May your nature become known and respected by all.
May your joy, peace, wholeness and justice
be the reality for everyone as we live by the Jesus Way.
Give us all that we really need to live every day for you.
And forgive us our failures as we forgive others for their failures.
Keep us from doing those things which are not of you,
and cause us always to be centered on your love.
For you are the true reality in this our now,
and in all our future.
In the Jesus Way we pray. Amen.

-- David Sorrill, cited on http://rainbowcathedral.wordpress.com/prayers

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Donna Eyster

We know our shepherd. We recognize his voice as he teaches. Care for the poor, healing for the sick and lame, inclusion for all people, love for each and every leper – our teacher is Jesus Christ and let us prepare our ministries for their work by giving to the works in our community. Amen.

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication *(Unison) Donna Eyster

Your love is within all of us, Lord. You lead our feet, our minds, our hands and our hearts to do your work when we listen. Thank you for all that you created. Strengthen us so that we might bring the light of Easter resurrections to the world. In Jesus' name we say, Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"Clap Your Hands"** **49 SING**

***Benediction** David Forsberg

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website:* *www.ypsiucc.com

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: April 26th	Next Sunday: May 3rd
Usher	Orin Brustad	Lyle Molter
Preaching	David Forsberg	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Donna Eyster	Donna Eyster
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Glenda Horvath
Acolyte	Lyle Molter	Kelsie/ Desayre
Friendship Time	Glenda Horvath	Patty Sherwood
Sunday School	Anne Marie N-T	Melanie Harner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP: We will be doing outdoor clean-up on May 9th at 10:00 am till ???. Donna Eyster is heading the event, so contact her for more information.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held May 4th at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: We will be meeting at 10:00 am till 12:00 at Bethlehem UCC in Ann Arbor on May 9, 2015. If anyone is interested in being part of a panel discussion about what it meant for you and your congregation to become ONA, we are looking for panelists for this meeting. Contact Wayne at 734-377-0696.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shutin. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.
Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*
Sally Dusbiber's *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's*
direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.
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IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*****,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation. See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year. Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.